



Dear Parents,

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

A half term like no other – but thank you to everyone at Lancaster Royal Grammar School for these great weeks back together. Teachers, support staff and boarding staff have gone the extra mile in challenging times, and pupils have kept their ambition and sense of humour! Many thanks to parents for your ongoing support.

Particular best wishes to those boarding families whose children had hoped to travel to homes abroad over half term. Best wishes also to pupils and families who are currently self-isolating. My assembly themes this week have been about the need for **kindness** and **optimism** – we will need plenty of both for some time to come!

### Richard Furlong-Brown



It was with great sadness that we learnt of Richard Furlong-Brown's sudden death on 11<sup>th</sup> October. Richard began his teaching career at LRGS in 1980, and was a member of the resident boarding staff until January 2020. He also served as a governor and as President of the Old Lancastrian Club. He inspired great affection and respect. There is no shortage of stories about him – whether in the Maths classroom, Ashton House, coaching cricket, or on the touchline at the Memos. Having started his working life in the crocodile house at London Zoo, pupil discipline was never a concern! RFB loved the school, and had a profound influence on many pupils. We are poorer for his loss.

### GCSE and A-level examination dates

The government has announced that GCSEs and A-levels will take place about three weeks later than normal, to give students a little more preparation time. Most will start on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June (straight after half term) and end on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. One English and one Maths GCSE paper will be scheduled before half term, and possibly some small entry A-level subject exams. Results days will be on August 24<sup>th</sup> (A-level) and August 27<sup>th</sup> (GCSE).

### New menus for break and lunchtime

You may already have seen Chartwells' menus for hot food to be served at break and lunchtime after half term, as well as hot drinks in both Sixth Form cafés. The school is very much looking forward to this! Many thanks to your children for all their patience and cooperation with the current arrangements.

### Sixth Form prospectus

Our Sixth Form prospectus is now online, and can be seen at [this link](#). The advice on A-levels is to choose **subjects you are good at** and **subjects you enjoy** – this is a good time to start those conversations. It is an exciting time for Year 11 students – not just preparing for Prelims in November, but looking over the horizon to Sixth Form life ahead.

Our **virtual Sixth Form open evening** is coming soon, and we will advertise this to Year 11 pupils after half term. About a third of our Lower Sixth join LRGS from other schools – boys and girls, day and boarding – so please recommend us to friends or neighbours who might thrive on *challenge, choice and care* at LRGS!

With all best wishes for half term ~ Dr C.J. Pyle

 @LRGSLancaster



Autumn sunshine!



Upper Sixth



Old School House